

AMENDMENTS

In Response to the Examiner's Action dated 25 October 2000 (Application No. 09/616,870), please amend the present application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 17, line 16 after "invention" insert -- indicated generally by the reference numeral --

On page 17, line 31, delete "Figure" and insert -- Figures --

On page 17, line 31, after "4" insert -- and 18 --

On page 18, line 16 after "cuts" insert -- or incisions --

On page 19, line 22 after "cuts" insert -- or incisions --

On page 21, line 21 after "shaped" insert -- cuts or --

On page 21, line 21 after "these" insert -- cuts or --

On page 21, line 22 after "U" insert -- , or horseshoe --

On page 24, line 22 delete "central" and insert -- center --

In the Drawings:

Please review and accept the "red-lined" copy of the attached amended drawing sheets 2/37, 6/37, and 12/37.

In the claims:

Claim 26 (amended)

A dressing mechanism comprising: a first section, a second section, and a third section; the first section being coupled to the second section and the second section being coupled to the third section; the second section comprising an elastic material; the first section and the third section each having a first side; and a predetermined portion of the first side including an adhesive located thereon; and wherein the second section includes a first linear margin and a

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second linear margin; the first section being integral to the second section at the first margin;
and the third section being integral to the second section at the second margin.

Please delete claims 27 - 31, inclusive, without prejudice.

Claim 32 remains as originally presented.

Claim 33 (amended)

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[The] A dressing mechanism [of claim 32] comprising: a first section, a second section, and a
third section; the first section being coupled to the second section and the second section being
coupled to the third section; the second section comprising an elastic material; the first section
and the third section each having a first side; and a predetermined portion of the first side
including an adhesive located thereon; the first section and the third section being laminated
materials comprising a first layer, a second intermediate layer, and a third layer; the third layer
including the first side and wherein the second section includes a first margin and a second
margin; the first section includes a first channel located between the first layer and the third
layer of the first section for receiving the first margin; and the second section includes a
second channel located between the first layer and the third layer of the second section for
receiving the second margin; the second intermediate layer comprising an adhesive material;
the first margin and the second margin respectively including at least one opening; the first
margin engaging the second intermediate layer in the first channel and the adhesive material
extending through the opening of the first margin; and the second margin engaging the second

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intermediate layer in the second channel and the adhesive material extending through the opening of the second margin.

Claims 34 - 35 remain as originally presented.

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Claim 36 (amended)

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A dressing mechanism comprising: a first section, a second section, and a third section; the first section being coupled to the second section and the second section being coupled to the third section; the first section and the third section comprising an elastic material; the first section and the third section each having a first side; and a predetermined portion of the first side including an adhesive located thereon; and wherein the second section includes at least one margin; the first section being integral to the second section at the margin; and the third section being integral to the second section at the margin.

Claims 37 - 40, inclusive remain as originally presented.

Please delete claim 41, without prejudice.

Claim 42 remains as originally presented.

Claim 43 (amended)

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[The] A dressing mechanism [of claim 42] comprising: a first section, a second section, and a third section; the first section being coupled to the second section and the second section being

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coupled to the third section; the first section and the third section comprising an elastic material; the first section and the third section each having a first side; a predetermined portion of the first side including an adhesive located thereon; and wherein the second section is a laminated material comprising at least a first layer, a second intermediate layer, and a third layer; the third layer including the first side; the first section and the third section include a first section margin and a third section margin; the second section including at least one channel located between the first layer and the third layer of the second section for receiving the margins; the second intermediate layer comprising an adhesive material; the first section margin and the second section margin respectively including at least one opening; the margins engaging the second intermediate layer in the channel and the adhesive material extending through the openings of the margins; and the adhesive material extending through the openings of the margins.

Claims 44 -45 remain as originally presented.

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Claim 46 (amended)

The dressing mechanism of claim [36] 43 wherein the second section includes at least one opening.

Claims 47 - 54, inclusive remain as originally presented.

Please add the following new claims:

Claim 104

The dressing mechanism of claim 26 wherein the second section comprises a web of planar material.

Claim 105

The dressing mechanism of claim 104 wherein the web is latex rubber.

Claim 106

The dressing of claim 33 wherein the second section includes a plurality of openings.

Claim 107

The dressing mechanism of claim 106 wherein the openings are of a predetermined size.

Claim 108

The dressing mechanism of claim 106 wherein the openings are of a predetermined shape.

Claim 109

The dressing mechanism of claim 108 wherein the openings of predetermined shape are spatially organized in a predetermined manner respective to each other.

Claim 110

The dressing mechanism of claim 43 wherein the second section includes at least one generally transparent section.

Claim 111

The dressing mechanism of claim 43 wherein the second section includes at least one wound irrigation mechanism.

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Claim 112

The dressing mechanism of claim 43 wherein the second section comprises a first side and a second side; the second side capable of contacting a wound.

cont'd
Claim 113

The dressing mechanism of claim 112 wherein the second side comprises a medicinal material.

Claim 114

The dressing mechanism of claim 113 wherein the medicinal material comprises zinc chromate.

Claim 115

The dressing mechanism of claim 113 wherein the medicinal material comprises zinc chromate impregnated in a hydrocolloid material.

Claim 116

The dressing mechanism of claim 113 wherein the medicinal material comprises an alginate.

Claim 117

The dressing mechanism of claim 116 wherein the alginate comprises one of the group consisting of calcium alginate and sodium alginate.

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration of the above-mentioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and following discussion.

1. The Examiner has objected to the drawings because the planes upon which the cross sectional views of Figures 28, 29 and 30 are taken, is not indicated on the view from which the section is cut. The drawings are further objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because, as referenced by the Examiner, they do not include reference sign(s) mentioned in the description. Attached hereto are "red-lined" copies of drawing sheet 6/37 and 2/37 taken from the original PCT filing US97/00868 (U.S. Serial No. 09/180,572). Drawing sheet 6/37 shows Figure 27 with appropriate broken line shown in red, and drawing sheet 2/37 shows Figure 4 with numerals noted by the examiner as missing. The Examiner's reference to "20" as is stated on page 18, line 2 is understood to pertain to Figure 4 rather than Figure 18 as stated in paragraph 3 of the present office action. Further, drawing sheet 12/37 is attached hereto with reference numeral 325 and leadline shown in red. No new matter has been added. Amendments to the specification are believed to answer the additional objections to the drawings and put the drawings in order